Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANA 03334 221048Z

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15

SP-02 /047 W
---------- 004750
R 220500Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY SANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9149
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 3334

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, YE
SUBJECT: CPO HEAD TO CONTINUE IN OFFICE

REF: SANA 2991

1. DURING SEPTEMBER 19 CALL ON RECENTLY APPOINTED MINISTER OF EDUCATION ABD AL-KARIM AL-IRYANI, HE INFORMED ME HE WILL ALSO CONTINUE AS HEAD OF CENTRAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION WHICH HE HAS SO ABLY MANAGED FOR THE LAST FEW YEARS. AL-IRYANI STATED THAT ALTHOUGH HE IS ALSO NO LONGER MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT THIS POSITION WILL NOT BE FILLED FOR THE TIME BEING. THUS, HE WILL HAVE A FREE HAND TO COMPLETE WORK ON YARG'S NEW FIVE-YEAR PLAN WHICH IS NOW SCHEDULED FOR PUBLICATION FOR SOME TIME EARLY NEXT YEAR.

2. ABD AL-KARIM CONTINUED THAT HE WAS TAKEN COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE BY THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF HIS APPOINTMENT AS MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEAD OF SANA UNIVERSITY ON AUGUST 24 AND STATED THAT PRESIDENT AL-HAMDI HAD GIVEN HIM NO PRIOR WARNING OF THIS CABINET SHIFT. ABD AL-KARIM

SAID THAT THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION HAS LONG BEEN IN A SHAMBLES AND THAT HE HAS ALSO LONG BEEN ADVOCATING
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 SANA 03334 221048Z

REFORMS IN THAT MINISTRY AND AT THE UNIVERISTY. THUS,

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

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WHILE PREFERRING THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD HAVE FOREWARNED HIM HE IS NONETHELESS PLEASED WITH THE IDEA OF TRYING TO REORGANIZE THESE TWO IMPORTANT INSTITUTIONS. IN THIS CONNECTION ABD AL-KARIM STATED THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS NOW GIVEN HIM CARTE BLANCHE TO MAKE NECESSARY REFORMS WHICH MAY, AS AL-IRYANI PUT IT, "CAUSE SOME POLITICAL PROBLEMS".

3. COMMENT: ABD AL-KARIM AL-IRYANI'S CONTINUATION AS CPO HEAD SHOULD QUIET CONCERN EXPRESSED BOTH BY MANY HERE AND ABROAD THAT YEMEN'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WOULD BE ADVERSELY EFFECTED BY AL-IRYANI'S DEPARTURE. AT THE SAME TIME HIS NEW APPOINTMENTS BODE WELL FOR BOTH THE IMPORTANT MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SANA UNIVERSITY, IF IN FACT HE GETS THE FULL SUPPORT FROM PRESEIDENT AL-HAMDI WHICH HE HAS BEEN PROMISED.
SCOTES

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TAGS: PINT, YE, (AL-IRYANI, ABD AL-KARIM)
To: STATE
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